



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Quarterly Implementation Update #10

Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL, PL 117-58)

Inflation Reduction Act (IRA, PL 117-169)

December 7, 2023

Agenda for today:



- BIL, IRA summaries & implementation to date
- Where is the money going?
- Funding opportunities – open, closed, still to come
- Staffing and Buy America Updates
- Any comments, questions & answers

B.F. Sisk Dam/San Luis Reservoir, California. Allocated BIL Dam Safety funding of \$100 million in FY 2022 (Section 40901(6)), and BIL Water Storage funding of \$22 million in FY 2022 and \$10 million in 2023 (Section 40902). Excludes funding under Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act. Photo by Aric Coppola, Reclamation, October 2023.



Reclamation's BIL program:

	Program area	BIL Section(s)	Program funding amount and type	Recipient type	Awarding process
	New or expanded water storage & conveyance	40901(1), 40902, 40903	\$1.15 billion; contracts and competitive grants	Contractors and non-federal agencies	FAR contracting and competitive
	Aging Infrastructure / Extraordinary Maintenance (XM)	40901(2), 40904	\$3.2 billion; contracts and grants	Contractors and operators of Reclamation transferred works	FAR contracting, repayment contracts
	Rural Water Projects (MT, ND, NM, SD, IA, and MN)	40901(3)	\$1 billion; grants	Contractors, tribes and non-federal agencies	Financial Assistance
	Water recycling and reuse	40901(4), 40901(5)	\$1 billion; competitive grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Desalination	40901(5), 40908	\$250 million; competitive grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Safety of Dams	40901(6)	\$500 million; contracts	Contractors and non-federal agencies	FAR contracting
	WaterSMART Grants	40901(7)	\$400 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Colorado River Drought Contingency Plans (DCPs)	40901(8), 40906	\$300 million; contracts and grants	Contractors, tribes and non-federal agencies	Discretionary awards and NOFOs
	Cooperative Watershed Management	40901(9)	\$100 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration	40901(10)	\$250 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Multi-benefit projects for Watershed health	40901(11), 40907	\$100 million; grants	Tribes and non-federal agencies	Competitive NOFO
	Endangered Species in the Colorado River	40901(12)	\$50 million; contracts and grants	Contractors, tribes and non-federal agencies	Discretionary awards

BIL project numbers

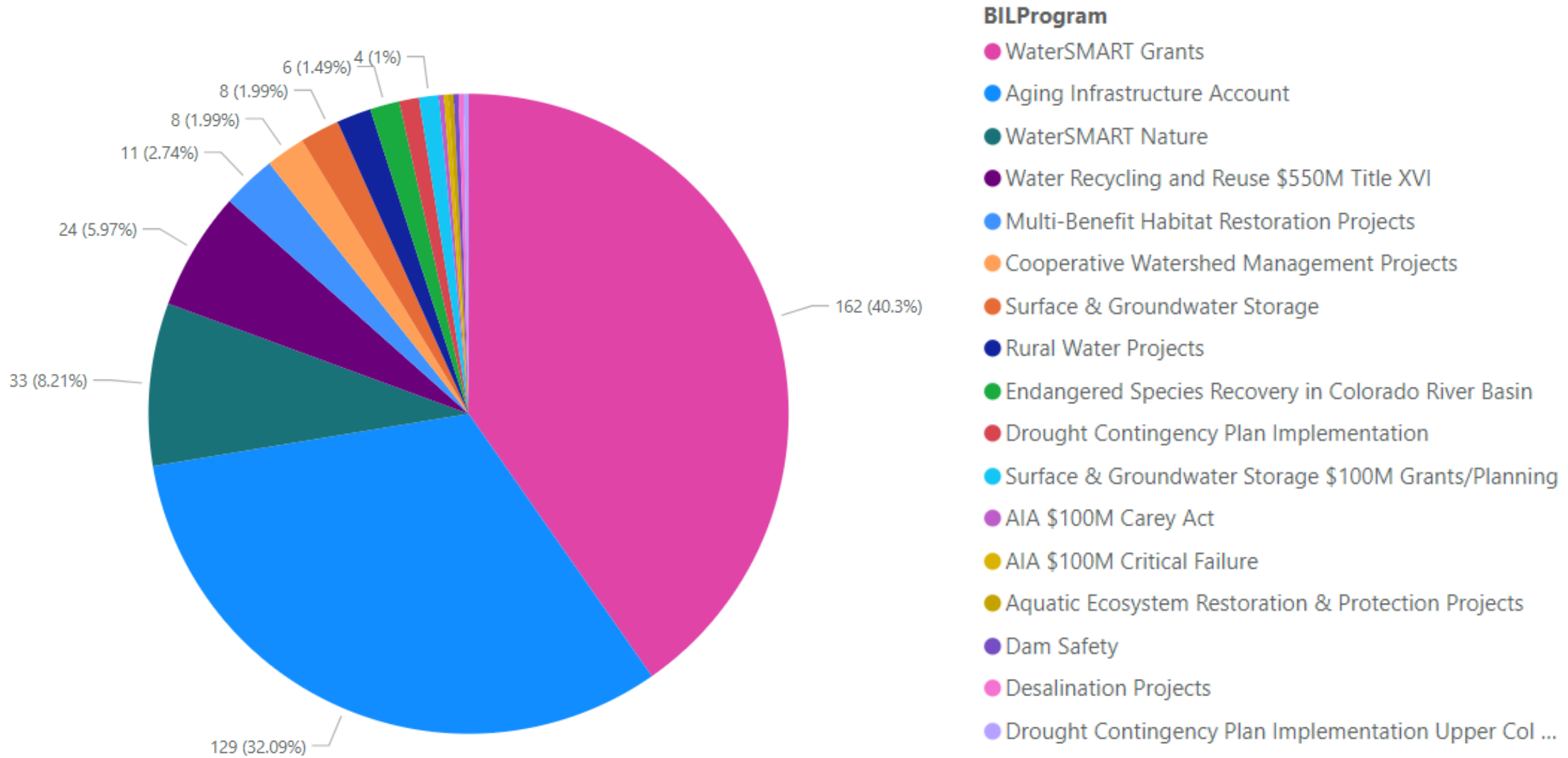


- Reclamation has allocated BIL funding to 402 projects, some in consecutive years.
- \$2.9 billion in BIL funding has been allocated.
- All 17 western states plus Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico are home to projects allocated funding from BIL.
- 238 WaterSMART projects funded by BIL, 82 of those to small-scale projects (<\$100k).
- 129 Aging infrastructure/XM projects funded by BIL.
- Other categories listed at [usbr.gov](https://www.usbr.gov).

Musselshell-Judith Rural Water Project, Montana. Allocated BIL Rural Water Project funding of \$3 million in FY 2024, \$25 million in FY 2023, and \$37 million in FY 2022 (Section 40901(3)). Pictured is the project reservoir site on the Phase 1 segment, water service to the Town of Harlowton, MT. Photo by Lindy Johnson, Reclamation, October 2023.



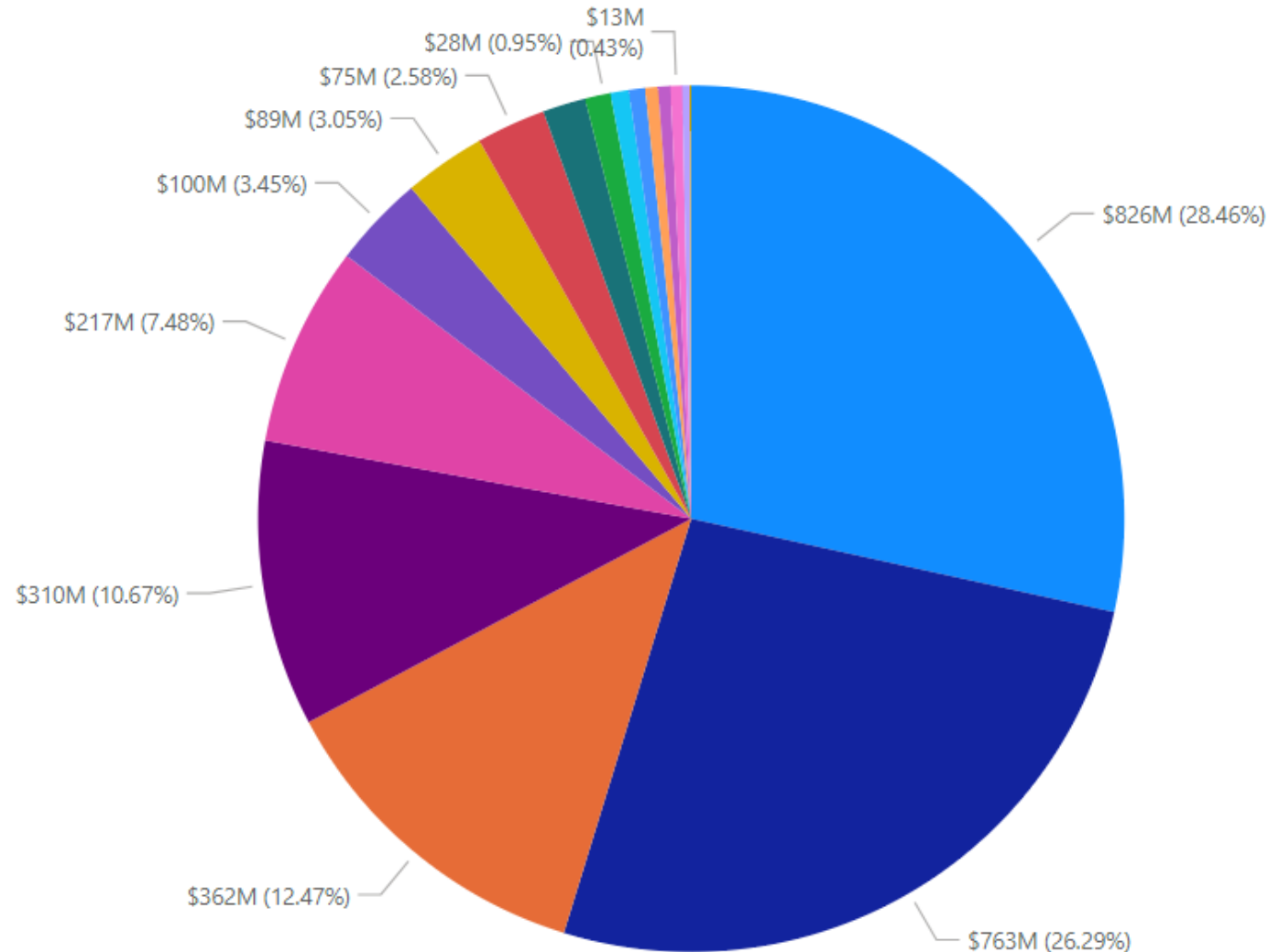
BIL projects funded as of December 2023



BIL funding allocated as of December 2023

BILProgram

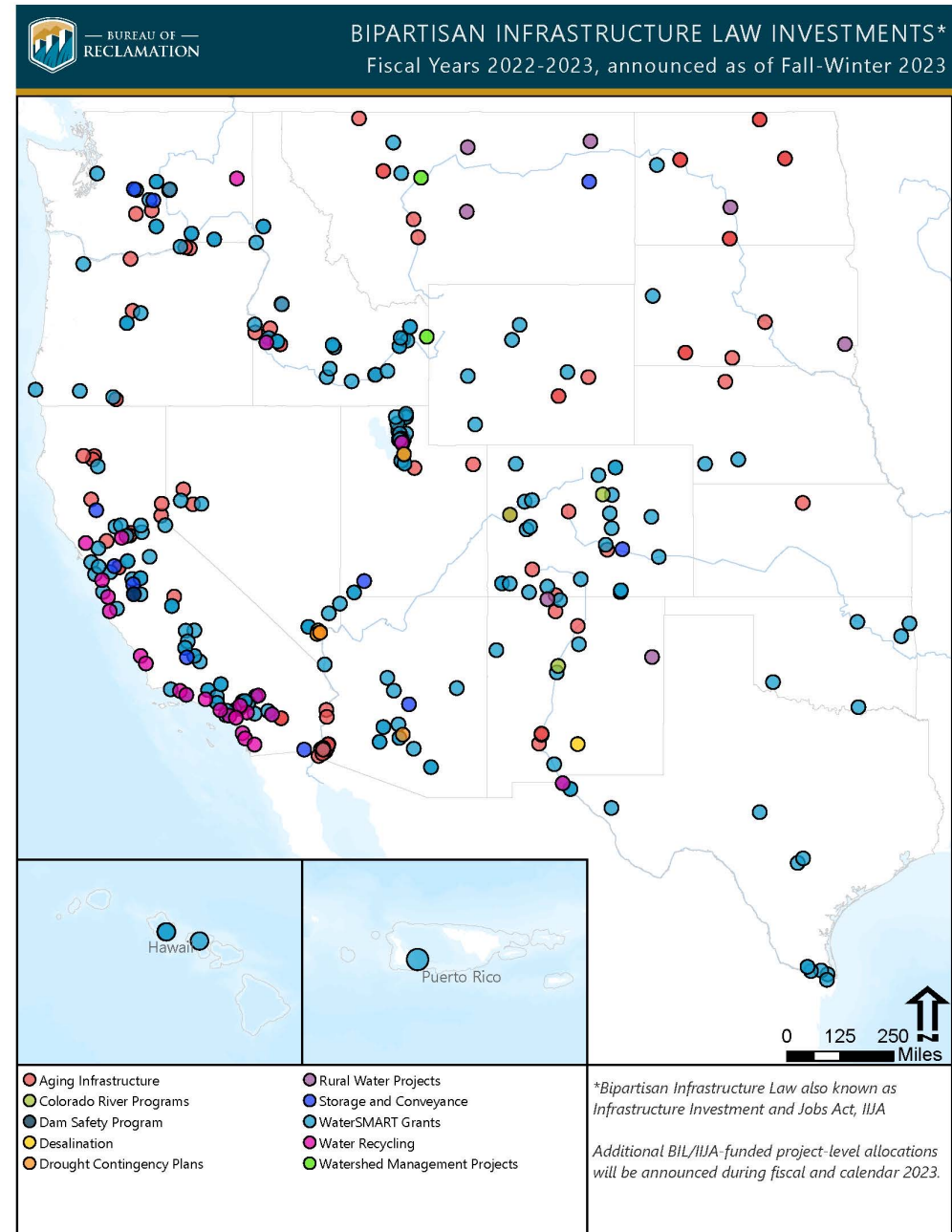
- Aging Infrastructure Account
- Rural Water Projects
- Surface & Groundwater Storage
- Water Recycling and Reuse \$550M Title XVI
- WaterSMART Grants
- Dam Safety
- AIA \$100M Critical Failure
- Drought Contingency Plan Implementation
- WaterSMART Nature
- Endangered Species Recovery in Colorado River Basin
- Surface & Groundwater Storage \$100M Grants/Planning
- Multi-Benefit Habitat Restoration Projects
- Cooperative Watershed Management Projects
- AIA \$100M Carey Act
- Desalination Projects
- Drought Contingency Plan Implementation Upper Col ...
- Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration & Protection Projects



U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART				
Status of WaterSMART Program Funding Opportunities				
Program	Eligible Applicants	Federal/Non-Federal Cost Share	Funding	Current Status
Water and Energy Efficiency Grants On-the-ground water management improvement projects, including projects that conserve water and address water supply reliability. Program Contact: Josh German jgerman@usbr.gov	Category A Applicants: States, Indian tribes, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organizations with water or power delivery authority. Category B Applicants: Nonprofit conservation organizations that are acting in partnership and with the agreement of an entity described above.	Up to \$500,000 for projects to be completed within two years; up to \$2 million for projects to be completed within three years; and up to \$5 million for large projects to be completed within three years. Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater.	Reclamation's FY22 and FY23 spend plans for Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding together include \$310 million for these funding opportunities. Consistent with BIL, 25% of that amount is designated for Environmental Water Resources Projects that improve natural infrastructure. \$38 million available for cooperative watershed management projects under BIL in FY22 and FY23 is also being allocated through the Environmental Water Resources Projects funding opportunity. These funding opportunities are also being used to allocate available FY23 appropriations. Each funding opportunity includes further details.	FY23 selections were announced on April 21, 2023. 84 projects were selected to receive \$140 million in federal funding, including Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding. The FY24 Funding Opportunity was posted November 12, 2023. First round of applications are due February 22, 2024.
Small-Scale Water Efficiency Projects Small water efficiency improvements that have been identified through previous planning efforts. Program Contact: Nickie McCann nmccann@usbr.gov	Applicants must be located in the Western United States or United States Territories specifically: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Oregon, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming (the "17 Western States"), Alaska, Hawaii, American Samoa, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, the Virgin Islands, or Puerto Rico.	Up to \$100,000 for projects to be completed within two years. Total project costs should generally be less than \$225,000. Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater.		FY22 selections were announced on January 5, 2023. 82 projects were selected to receive \$7 million in Bipartisan Infrastructure Law funding. The FY24/25 Funding Opportunity was posted November 2, 2023. The first round of applications for FY24 funding are due January 16, 2024.
Drought Resiliency Projects Funding for on-the-ground projects and modeling tools that will increase water reliability and improve water management. Program Contact: Sheri Looper slooper@usbr.gov		Up to \$500,000 for projects to be completed within two years; up to \$2 million for projects to be completed within three years; and up to \$5 million for projects to be completed within three years. Non-Federal Cost Share: 50% or greater. NEW: Up to \$10 million for domestic water supply projects for Tribes or disadvantaged communities that do not have reliable access to water supplies. To be completed within three years. 5% Non-Federal cost share with possible waiver available.		The FY24 Funding Opportunity was posted August 7, 2023. Applications received by November 7, 2023 are currently under review. Selections are expected around mid-March 2024.



Where is BIL funding going?



BIL funding opportunities, 2023-2024

Open now:

- Title XVI WaterSMART grants of up to \$30 million per project, through 12/7/23
- Desalination WaterSMART grants up to \$30 million per project, through 12/7/23
- Small-Scale Water Efficiency WaterSMART grants up to \$100,000 per project, through 1/16/24
- Aquatic Ecosystem WaterSMART grants up to \$20 million per project, through 1/24/24
- Water & Energy Efficiency WaterSMART grants up to \$5 million per project, through 2/22/24
- Planning & Design WaterSMART grants up to \$400,000 per project, through 4/4/24
- Large-Scale Water Recycling WaterSMART grants, up to 25% of project costs, through 3/29/24



Jobs and Buy America Update



Cle Elum Pool Raise adjacent fish passage work, Yakima Project, Washington state. Pool raise allocated BIL storage funding of \$1 million in FY 2023 and \$5 million in FY 2022 (Section 40902). Excludes storage funding under Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act and other fish passage funding. Photo by David Denton, Reclamation, October 2023.

In FY 2023, Reclamation's BIL program:

- Supported 13,128 jobs
- Contributed \$1.39 billion to Gross Domestic Product
- Largest program area was Construction on rural water projects, at 36%
- Next largest area was planning, design and construction of water recycling projects, at 27%

www.doi.gov/sites/doi.gov/files/bil-fy22-23-econ-contrib-jobs-formatted-final.pdf



Jobs and Buy America Update

- Buy American Request for Information (RFI).
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites public comment on domestic availability of products used in construction, alteration, and/or maintenance of water infrastructure.
- Federal Register publication on 11/20/23; comments requested by 12/20/23.
- <https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2023-11-20/pdf/2023-25515.pdf>

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to control organisms in the IATCS since there are no registered alternatives available that meet the required criteria. This emergency request proposed a use of a new (unregistered) chemical and in accordance with the requirements at 40 CFR 166.24(a)(1), a notice of receipt published in the **Federal Register** on August 25, 2023, to allow a public comment period that closed on September 11, 2023. The specific exemption was authorized on September 29, 2023, and effective October 7, 2023 to October 7, 2024.

C. Annual Report of Crisis Exemptions Declared and Revoked

Three crisis exemptions were declared, and zero crisis exemptions were revoked between October 1, 2022, and September 30, 2023.

Authority: 7 U.S.C. 136 *et seq.*
Dated: November 13, 2023.

Charles Smith,
Director, Registration Division, Office of Pesticide Programs,
[FR Doc. 2023-25602 Filed 11-17-23; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 6060-60-P

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
[EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0396; FRIL 11285-01-OW]

Request for Information Regarding Products and Categories of Products Used in Water Infrastructure Programs

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice; request for information (RFI).

SUMMARY: To support further development of multiple funding programs for water infrastructure subject to the requirements of the Build America, Buy America Act, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) invites public comment to inform the domestic availability of multiple products used in the construction, alteration, and/or maintenance of water infrastructure. The EPA is inviting comments to enable the agency to have the most comprehensive and current information available on the domestic market for BABA-covered products for its programs and the water infrastructure programs of other agencies. The EPA, along with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of Transportation, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, are especially interested in comments detailing domestic materials sourcing, market readiness, other product supply considerations, and whether specific water infrastructure products or their components are manufactured in the United States.

DATES: Comments must be received on or before December 20, 2023, to allow for their consideration during development of these funding programs. The EPA may consider comments received after the due date to the extent practicable.

ADDRESSES: Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0396, by any of the following methods:

- **Federal eRulemaking Portal:** <https://www.regulations.gov> (our preferred method). Follow the online instructions for submitting comments. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from www.regulations.gov.
- **Mail:** U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, EPA Docket Center, Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20460.
- **Hand Delivery or Courier:** EPA Docket Center, WJC West Building, Room 3334, 1301 Constitution Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20004. The Docket Center's hours of operations are 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday (except Federal holidays).

Instructions: All submissions received must include the Docket ID No. for this notice. Comments received may be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>, including any personal information provided. For detailed instructions on sending comments, see the "Public Participation" heading of the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of this document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Timothy Connor, Chemical Engineer, Office of Wastewater Management at (202) 566-1059, or via email at connor.timothy@epa.gov; or Leslie Corcelli, Physical Scientist, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water at (202) 564-3825, or corcelli.leslie@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Public Participation

Submit your comments, identified by Docket ID No. EPA-HQ-OW-2023-0396, at <https://www.regulations.gov> (our preferred method), or the other methods identified in the ADDRESSES section. Once submitted, comments cannot be edited or removed from the docket. The EPA may publish any comment received to its public docket. Do not submit to the EPA's docket at <https://www.regulations.gov> any Confidential Business Information, Proprietary Business Information, or other information where disclosure is restricted by statute. If you wish to submit information containing CBI, contact Timothy Connor (connor.timothy@epa.gov) with any questions on the EPA's secure CBI protocol or to initiate Agency procedures for submitting confidential information. After contacting the EPA regarding your intent to submit CBI, a secure data exchange will be initiated and detailed instructions will be provided. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make. The EPA will generally not consider comments or comment contents located outside of the primary submission (i.e., on the web, cloud, or other file sharing system). Please visit <https://www.epa.gov/dockets/commenting-epa-dockets> for additional submission methods; the full EPA public comment policy; information about CBI, PBI, or multimedia submissions; and general guidance on making effective comments.

II. General Information

The Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act (Pub. L. 117-58, Nov. 15, 2021) provides \$50 billion of new funding for water infrastructure, funding that includes domestic content requirements (see details below). These developments provide an opportunity for significant expansion of domestic capacity. Additionally, the Infrastructure Reduction Act (Pub. L. 117-69, Aug. 16, 2022) collectively provide more than \$10 billion of additional funding to the Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation for aging infrastructure, water delivery systems for rural communities, and to increase water coordination with other agencies and with private industry to provide clear and consistent demand signals for projects used in water infrastructure.

The purpose of this Request for Information (RFI) is to improve Federal agencies' understanding of the current state of the domestic market for products required to service drinking, agricultural, wastewater treatment and delivery systems.

The Build America, Buy America Act requires iron, steel, manufactured



Jobs and Buy America Update

Buy America Approved Waivers:

- DOI Small Grants Waiver (\$250,000), approved through 2/20/2028.
- DOI De Minimus Purchases Waiver (5% of project costs, max of \$1 million), approved through 2/20/28.
- DOI Pacific Islands & Territories Waiver, approved through 2/15/2025.
- DOI Tribal Waiver for Federally recognized tribes, approved through 9/1/2024.
- AMI Capable Water Meters – Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency, approved through 1/31/2025.
- AMI Capable Water Meters – City of Rialto, approved through 12/31/2025.



Growth in Financial Assistance

FY21			FY22			FY23		
Region	Sum of Awards	Count of Awards	Region	Sum of Awards	Count of Awards	Region	Sum of Awards	Count of Awards
CGB	\$102,357,266	57	CGB	\$162,847,957	97	CGB	\$219,670,605	119
CPN	\$17,483,580	68	CPN	\$29,379,581	75	CPN	\$36,071,181	77
LCB	\$58,175,786	60	LCB	\$65,019,063	68	LCB	\$352,297,764	74
DO	\$46,015,919	162	DO	\$117,925,739	288	DO	\$186,759,209	216
MB	\$132,291,927	52	MB	\$102,013,752	40	MB	\$337,035,882	55
UCB	\$64,072,115	97	UCB	\$253,734,748	83	UCB	\$184,849,328	92
Total	\$420,396,592	496	Total	\$730,920,843	651	Total	\$1,316,683,971	633

Note: FY2023 Financial Assistance is ~three times the FY2021 amount.

Total awards = total number of funded actions (new awards as well as funded Amendments)



Staffing Update



- Reclamation at 272 new infrastructure-related hires as of December 2023.
- Human Capital remains central to Reclamation's BIL and IRA implementation.
- 23 active Reclamation Postings for BIL on USAJobs as of December 6, 2023, some for multiple vacancies and locations.
- Engineering, environmental specialist, program management, budget, procurement, archeologist, and construction control positions in high demand.

Edwards Aquifer Authority TX, flow meter improvements to existing SCADA system funded by Reclamation WaterSMART Program BIL funding through the Small-Scale Water Efficiency Program. Site visit November 2023.





— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Inflation Reduction Act Public Law 117-169

Bob Wolf
Director, Program and Budget

Grayford Payne
Deputy Commissioner, Policy, Administration and Budget

December 7, 2023



Sec. 50231 Domestic Water Supply Projects



Sec. 50231

Domestic Water Supply Projects

Reclamation is working with the Indian Health Service to accomplish a whole of government approach to solving the drinking water crises in the West.



Sec. 50231

Domestic Water Supply Projects

WaterSMART Grant Applications are Under Review.

Current Opportunities:

- WaterSMART Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO): FY 2023 Planning and Project Design Grants closed 10/17/23; For FY 2024 closes 4/2/24.
- WaterSMART NOFO: FY 2024 Drought Response Program, Drought Resiliency Projects closed 11/7/23.



Sec. 50231

Domestic Water Supply Projects

TRIBAL DOMESTIC WATER SUPPLY GRANT PROGRAM

- Under Development Now
- Announcement expected around the beginning of the next year in the form of a Dear Tribal Leader letter.
- Applications will be accepted from Tribes until late Spring/early Summer of 2024.
- Grants will be available for Planning, Design, and Construction of Domestic Water Supply projects.





Sec. 50232 Canal Improvement Projects

Sec. 50232

Canal Improvement Projects

The generation of power from solar energy is rapidly expanding as a major form of renewable energy in the United States. In relation to water canal facilities, solar panels can be installed next to or above the canals.



Sec. 50232

Canal Improvement Projects

- On Friday, July 28, 2023, Reclamation distributed an internal call for proposals to the regions that describes project eligibility and criteria.
- Project proposals were due from Reclamation regional directors no later than October 30, 2023. Selections will follow a process of initial screening for eligibility, technical sufficiency evaluations, and management reviews.
- Cooperative agreement(s) are anticipated to be executed around September 2024.
- Proposed projects are to place solar panels over canals associated with Reclamation projects as a pilot or demonstration for Reclamation.
- 6 Projects are currently under active consideration with announcements expected soon.





Sec. 50233 Drought Mitigation



Colorado River - Bucket 1

- Existing system conservation programs have proven successful but insufficient to stabilize the system.
- Established in 2022, when elevations in Lake Mead and Lake Powell were projected to hit critical elevations as soon as 2023.
- System Conservation saved over 1 million acre-feet in 2023
- The program has proven successful – lowest release from Lake Mead in 30 years.
- Lake Mead is currently ~40 feet higher than it was projected to be at this time last year.



Colorado River System Conservation - Bucket 2

- The Lower Basin is working through 84 Project Proposals from 37 Entities, announcements will begin on a rolling basis in 2024
- Announcements will be on a rolling basis, depending on level of project complexity, and will begin in early 2024.

State Breakdown	# of proposals	% of proposals
Arizona*	53	63%
California	15	18%
Nevada	15	18%
Ineligible/No State	1	1%
Total	84	100%

- Upper Basin Bucket 2 program will be announced in early 2024



Section 50233

Drought Mitigation in Other Basins

- Project proposals were solicited through Reclamation regional offices.
- Proposals were accepted through Aug. 25, 2023.
- Reclamation received over 100 project proposals, which are currently under review.
- Selections are expected this Winter.





Sec. 80004 Emergency Drought Relief for Tribes

Section 80004

Emergency Drought Relief for Tribes

- \$12.5 million through Sept. 30, 2026, for near-term drought relief actions to mitigate drought impacts for Indian Tribes that are impacted by the operation of Bureau of Reclamation water projects.
- None of the funds provided are subject to cost-sharing or matching requirements.
- A funding announcement is undergoing review currently.
- The solicitation for projects should be published in GRANTS.GOV in early 2024.



Closing comments



City of Norman, Oklahoma Mayor Larry Heikkila, Council Members and staff from the city with staff from Reclamation's Oklahoma-Texas Area Office, November 2023. The City of Norman received \$2 million through a Reclamation WaterSMART Program Water and Energy Efficiency Grant.

- BIL is in its third fiscal year, IRA is in year two.
- BIL and IRA are funding opportunities, application periods and spend plans translating into progress on the ground.
- Stay engaged and sign up for BIL and IRA notifications.
- BIL and IRA will succeed on partnerships, collaboration, focus on performance and results.



Thank You for participating!

- BIL Resources: <https://www.usbr.gov/bil>— see the FAQ's or E-mail us at usbr.bil@usbr.gov
- IRA Resources: <https://www.usbr.gov/inflation-reduction-act> or E-mail us at usbr.ir.act@usbr.gov
- WaterSMART Resources: <https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/>



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